

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND IRELAND DURING THE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY

Summary

The history of the relationship between the British Empire and Ireland is a complex subject marked by a series of conflicts and turmoil. From the first contacts in the 12th century, until the declaration of independence in the middle of the 20th century, Ireland was under the constant control and influence of the British government. The situation in Ireland was therefore extremely unstable, especially considering the uncertainty of its position in the British Empire. Hence, this topic is the main issue of this paper which aims to shed light on the position of Ireland in the British Empire and clarify whether it was an integral part of the United Kingdom or a colony. The paper will present some of the main tools of colonization that occurred in Ireland, such as military and police forces, cultural assimilation and the imposition of English education and language. Finally, the paper will provide an overview of the situation in Ireland during the 20th century, that is, an overview of the political turmoil in the background of which was the British Empire.

Key words: Ireland, the British Empire, colony, colonization, independence